

#17/7 26/01/00

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

FODSTAD ET AL.

Examiner:

C. CHIN

Serial No.:

08/881,393

Group Art Unit:

1641

Filed:

JUNE 24, 1997

Docket No.:

7885.33USD1

Title:

METHOD FOR DETECTION OF SPECIFIC TARGET CELLS IN

SPECIALIZED OR MIXED CELL POPULATION AND SOLUTIONS

CONTAINING MIXED CELL POPULATIONS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 15, 2000.

By: John J. Gresens

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action mailed February 14, 2000, Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks. Re–examination and reconsideration of the application in light of the amendment and remarks below is respectfully requested.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows.

(Amended) A method for detecting and quantitating a specific <u>living</u> target cell in a cell suspension of a mixed cell population at a sensitivity of one target cell per 100 or more total cells, in a fluid system containing a mixed cell population, or in a single cell suspension prepared from a solid tissue, with the exception of normal and malignant hematopoietic cells in blood and bone marrow, the method comprising the steps of:

a. coating paramagnetic particles or beads with an antibody or antibody fragment directed against a membrane structure specifically expressed on the target-cell and not on a non-target-cell in the cell mixture;

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